LISTING OF CLAIMS:

The present listing of claims replaces all prior listings or versions of claims in the present application.

1. (Currently Amended) A community providing server providing a virtual community for a user who has a user terminal connected to the server via a network, the server comprising:

a user management information database for storing information concerning registered users who are registered with the virtual community;

a contents database for storing contents data constituting the virtual community; and

a control means for issuing, for the purpose of mounting a virtual tag community on a first website of the registered user, a community tag thatwhich is to be inserted in HTML data constituting the first website.

2. (Currently Amended) The community providing server as defined in Claim 1, wherein,

the user management information database stores information concerning an avatar thatwhich is a character acting for each user in the virtual tag community, and

the control means performs control to show thean avatar acting for a user who is accessing the firsta website having the virtual tag community in the virtual tag community.

3. (Currently Amended) The community providing server as defined in Claim 2, wherein,

when a user who has not logged into the virtual community accesses the firsta website having the virtual tag community, the control means performs control to show a specific character thatwhich indicates that the user is not in a logged-in state in the virtual tag community.

4. (Currently Amended) The community providing server as defined in ~~any of~~ Claim 1,

wherein,

the user management information database stores an address of a <u>second</u> website of a

user <u>owning</u>~~owing~~ a <u>second</u> website having the virtual tag community among the registered

users, and

the control means provides ~~the~~ information of the address of the <u>second</u> website for a

user via the virtual tag community.

5. (Currently Amended) The community providing server as defined in ~~any of~~ Claim 1,

wherein,

the contents database stores information of a map of the whole virtual community,

and

the user management information database stores information of an address of a

registered user, and

the control means provides the information of the map and the address for a user via

the virtual tag community.

6. (Currently Amended) The community providing server as defined in Claim 5, wherein the

control means searches the registered users on a prescribed condition with reference to the

information of the user management information database and further refers to the

information of the map and ~~the~~ address, resulting in the control means outputting a result of

<u>a</u>~~the~~ search linked to the information of the map.

7. (Original) A virtual community system providing a virtual community for a user, the

system comprising:

a virtual community providing server, a user terminal, and a user website server,

connected to each other via a network; and wherein,

the community providing server comprises a user management information database

for storing information concerning registered users who are registered with the virtual

community, a contents database for storing contents data constituting the virtual community,

and a control means for issuing, for the purpose of mounting a virtual tag community on a

website of the registered user, a community tag which is to be inserted in HTML data

constituting the website, and

the user website server comprises storage for saving HTML data into which the

community tag is inserted.

8. (Currently Amended) A virtual community providing method for providing a virtual

community for a user who has a user terminal connected to a community providing server via

a network, the method comprising:

a step for issuing a community tag for a user who accesses the community server and

registers with the virtual community in order to mount a virtual tag community on a website

of the registered user.; and

inserting the community tag being inserted in HTML data constituting the website.

9. (Currently Amended) A virtual community providing program, stored on a computer

readable medium, for causing a computer connected to a user terminal via a network to

provide a virtual community for a user who is usinghas the user terminal, wherein

the program causes the computer to execute a step of issuing a community tag for a

user who accesses the community and registers with the virtual community in order to mount

a virtual tag community on a website of the registered user.; and

the program causes the community tag to bebeing inserted in HTML data constituting

the website.

10. (NEW) The community providing server as defined in Claim 1, wherein,

the user management information database stores information concerning an avatar

that is a character acting for each user in the virtual tag community, and

the control means performs control to show the avatar acting for a user who is

accessing the first website having the community tag in the virtual tag community.